

Application No.: 10/814,628

Docket No.: 21854-00040-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend page 3, line 7, through page 4, line 4 as follows:

The machine consists of a wheeled base 10 mounted on which is the support frame 11. The C frame 12 is mounted for vertical sliding movement on the support 11 and carries the heater platen 14 which is the upper platen and the pallet press against the print station of a print machine so that each pallet will be aligned with the upper platen 14 and lie between the platens 14 and 15. The heat press includes a micro controller and controls 17 that can be programmed as to the duration and temperature of the transfer printing operation. As shown in more detail in figures 3 and 4 the heating platen 14 is fixed to the upper portion of the C frame 12 by the attachment means 21. During operation of the heating press of this invention, the heating platen 14 does not move relative to the C frame 12. Attached to the C frame is the press cylinder 24 which is adapted to raise and lower the pallet support platen 15. The swivel hub 22 allows for relative movement between the press cylinder shaft and the pallet support platen 15.

The C frame 12 is supported by the levelling cylinder 28 which in turn is fixed by the frame 25 to the base 10. The guide rails 26 sliding within the bearings 27 ensure that the C frame slides vertically in response to the pressure in the levelling cylinder 28. The cylinder 28 allows the C frame 12 and its attachments the upper platen 14 and the lower platen and its press cylinder 24 to float downwardly together relative to base 10 as the lower platen is raised to maintain abutting support for the pallet. The leveling cylinder 28 may be an hydraulic cylinder but is preferably a pneumatic ram.

In operation the leveling cylinder 28 is pressured to ensure that the pallet of the rotary screen printing machine is located underneath the platen 14 and above the pallet support platen 15. When the pressing operation commences the press cylinder 24 raises the lower platen-pallet 15 relative to frame 12 so that it abuts and supports the pallet and pallet arm. The air in the pneumatic cylinder 28 is allowed to bleed so that the cylinder 28 acts as a spring and takes the weight of the C frame 12 and its attachments. This means that the full weight of the C frame 12, the platens 14 and 15 is countered by the levelling cylinder 28 while the pallet is supported by

Application No.: 10/814,628

Docket No.: 21854-00040-US

the press cylinder 24. By this arrangement damage to the pallet arm of the screen printing machine is avoided.

One page 4, please amend lines 11-13 as follows:

3. the lower platen driven by press cylinder 24, is raised to contact the pallet
4. the bleeding of air from levelling cylinder 28 means that the frame and top platen are counterbalanced by the press cylinder driven lower platen